

one component of a phosphorus component in an amount of 1 to 15wt% as calculated for  $\text{PO}_4$  and a silicon component in an amount of 5 to 75 wt% as calculated for  $\text{SiO}_2$  as cationic components.

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2. (Original) The spark plug according to claim 1, wherein the surface of said main metal shell is coated with the complex chromate coat that contains the chromium component comprising at least 90wt% of trivalent chromium and the phosphorus component in an amount of 1 to 15wt% as calculated for  $\text{PO}_4$ .

3. (Original) The spark plug according to claim 1, wherein said complex chromate coat contains a phosphorus component dispersing chromate layer in which the phosphorus component is dispersed in a trivalent chromium based compound, said phosphorus component being present in an amount of 2 to 15 wt% as calculated for  $\text{PO}_4$ .

4. (Original) The spark plug according to claim 1, wherein the chromium component comprising at least 90wt% of trivalent chromium and the phosphorus component in an amount of 5 to 10wt% as calculated for  $\text{PO}_4$ .

5. (Original) The sparkplug according to claim 1, wherein the surface of said main metal shell is coated with the complex chromate coat that contains the chromium component

comprising at least 90wt% of trivalent chromium and the silicon component in an amount of 5 to 75 wt% as calculated for  $\text{SiO}_2$  as cationic components.

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6. (Original) The spark plug according to claim 3, wherein said complex chromate coat contains a silicon component dispersing chromate layer having such a structure that the silicon component is dispersed in a trivalent chromium based compound, said silicon component being present in an amount of 10 to 40 wt% as calculated for  $\text{SiO}_2$ .

7. (Original) The spark plug according to claim 4, wherein said silicon component dispersing chromate layer contains the phosphorus component in an amount of 1 to 15 wt% as calculated for  $\text{PO}_4$ .

8. (Original) The spark plug according to claim 1, wherein the chromium component comprising at least 90wt% of trivalent chromium and the silicon component in an amount of 10 to 40 wt% as calculated for  $\text{SiO}_2$  as cationic components.

9. (Original) The spark plug according to any one of claims 1 to 8, further comprising an annular gasket to be fitted around the basal end portion of a mounting threaded section formed on a peripheral surface of said main metal shell, at least a part of the surface of said gasket being coated with said complex chromate coat.

10. (Currently Amended) The spark plug according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 9,

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which, when subjected to “5. Neutral Salt Spray Test” according to the plate corrosion resistance test procedure specified in JIS H8502, can withstand for at least 40 hours before at least about 20% of the whole surface is coated with white rust due to corrosion of a zinc plate coat.

11. (Currently Amended) The spark plug according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 10,

which, when subjected to “5. Neutral Salt Spray Test” according to the plate corrosion resistance test procedure specified in JIS H8502 after heating at 200 °C for 30 minutes in air atmosphere, can withstand for at least 40 hours before at least about 20% of the whole surface is coated with white rust due to corrosion of a zinc plate coat.

Claim 12-14 (Withdrawn).

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